

(e) Beaching permission for the purpose of ship-breaking is granted by Port Authority/State Maritime Board (SMB) only to the plot-holders to whom plots are allotted by the port authorities or to those who are otherwise permitted by the Port Authority/SMB. The direct employment generated by ship-breaking industry is mostly unorganized and in the range of 20,000 to 25,000. Some State Maritime Boards, such as Gujarat Maritime Board and Kerala State Government have invested around Rupees 65 crore and around Rupees 1 crore respectively for ship-breaking activity.

Ship-building industry

2486. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ship-building industry in the country is in a very poor state and its credibility is declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what efforts have been made to revive the ship building industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) and (b) Ship-building in the country is undergoing a downturn primarily due to global economic meltdown. Ship-building industry is mainly dependent on shipping industry which is cyclical in nature. Shipping is highly capital intensive also and depends largely on the debt market to finance its acquisitions. The extreme volatility in charter rates has adversely affected the margins of the shipping companies. The current meltdown in international financial markets, high cost of financing, taxation duties etc. have affected the industry.

(c) The previous shipbuilding subsidy scheme expired in August 2007. Efforts made to revive the shipbuilding industry include extension of the ship-building subsidy scheme of 2002-2007 from October, 2009 till March 31, 2014 for liquidation of committed liabilities for ship-building contracts secured during 2002-2007 under the scheme.

Development of small and medium ports

2487. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has schemes for developing small and medium ports including the infrastructure like godowns, roads, lifts and cranes etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the ports in Kerala allocated funds under the above scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P): (a) to (c) As per Indian Ports Act, 1908, the respective State Governments have overall jurisdiction on the ports other than Major Ports, *i.e.* Non-Major Ports. Their development and management comes under the jurisdiction of respective State Governments. At present, there is no scheme in Ministry of Shipping for providing assistance to State Government for development of small and medium ports including infrastructure.

Construction of water bodies

2488. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to promote and motivate villagers to collectively construct water bodies in the villages; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI SANWAR LAL JAT): (a) and (b) Water Resources/Irrigation projects including Minor Irrigation projects are planned, executed and maintained by State Governments from their own resources and as per their own priorities. With a view to encourage the completion of ongoing projects and help States in creation of irrigation potential, Government of India provides financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). In case of Surface Minor Irrigation Schemes, the central assistance to the States is provided to the projects in the Special Category States *i.e.* States of North Eastern Region, hilly States namely, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand, undivided Koraput, Bolangir & Kalahandi (KBK) districts of Odisha and projects benefitting tribal areas, drought prone areas, Desert Development Programme (DDP) and naxal affected areas in non-special category States. The Central assistance is provided in the form of grant which is 90% and 75% of the total cost of the project in special category States and non-special category States respectively.

As per the information furnished by Ministry of Agriculture, assistance is provided for creating water resources through construction of tanks, farm ponds/reservoirs with plastic/Reinforced Cement Concrete (RCC) Lining to ensure life saving irrigation to crops. For construction of community structures with plastic/RCC Lining on public land, 100% assistance is provided @ ₹20.00 lakh/unit in plain areas and ₹25.00 lakh/unit in hilly areas for 10 hectare of command area (about 30,000 m³ size) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).